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#6

I HEART SKULL CRUSHER!



I HEART SKULL CRUSHER!

WRITTEN BY
JOSIE CAMPBELL

ILLUSTRATED BY
ALESSIO ZONNO

COLORS BY
ANGEL DE SANTIAGO

LETTERS BY
JIM CAMPBELL

MAIN COVER BY
ALESSIO ZONNO

VARIANT COVERS BY
BRITTNEY WILLIAMS
ALESSIO ZONNO

FOC REVEAL & UNLOCKABLE VARIANT COVERS BY
ALESSIO ZONNO
WITH COLORS BY **ANGEL DE SANTIAGO**

DESIGNER
GRACE PARK

ASSISTANT EDITOR
KENZIE RZONCA

EDITOR
ELIZABETH BREI

SUPERVISING EDITOR
BRYCE CARLSON

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
MATT GAGNON

SPECIAL THANKS TO
DAFNA PLEBAN

I HEART SKULL-CRUSHER! CREATED BY JOSIE CAMPBELL & ALESSIO ZONNO

Ross Richie Chairman & Founder • Jen Harned CEO • Matt Gagnon Editor-in-Chief • Stephen Christy President, Development • Adam Yoelin Senior Vice President, Film • Bryce Carlson Vice President, Editorial & Creative Strategy • Josh Hayes Vice President, Sales • Mette Norkjaer Vice President, Development • Ryan Matsunaga Director, Marketing • Stephanie Lazarski Director, Operations • Michelle Ankley Manager, Production Design • Rosalind Morehead Manager, Retail Sales • Jason Lee Manager, Accounting

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YOU HEARD
IT HERE FIRST,
FOLKS!



TRINI
WASTELANDER
WILL JOIN SKULL-
CRUSHER...

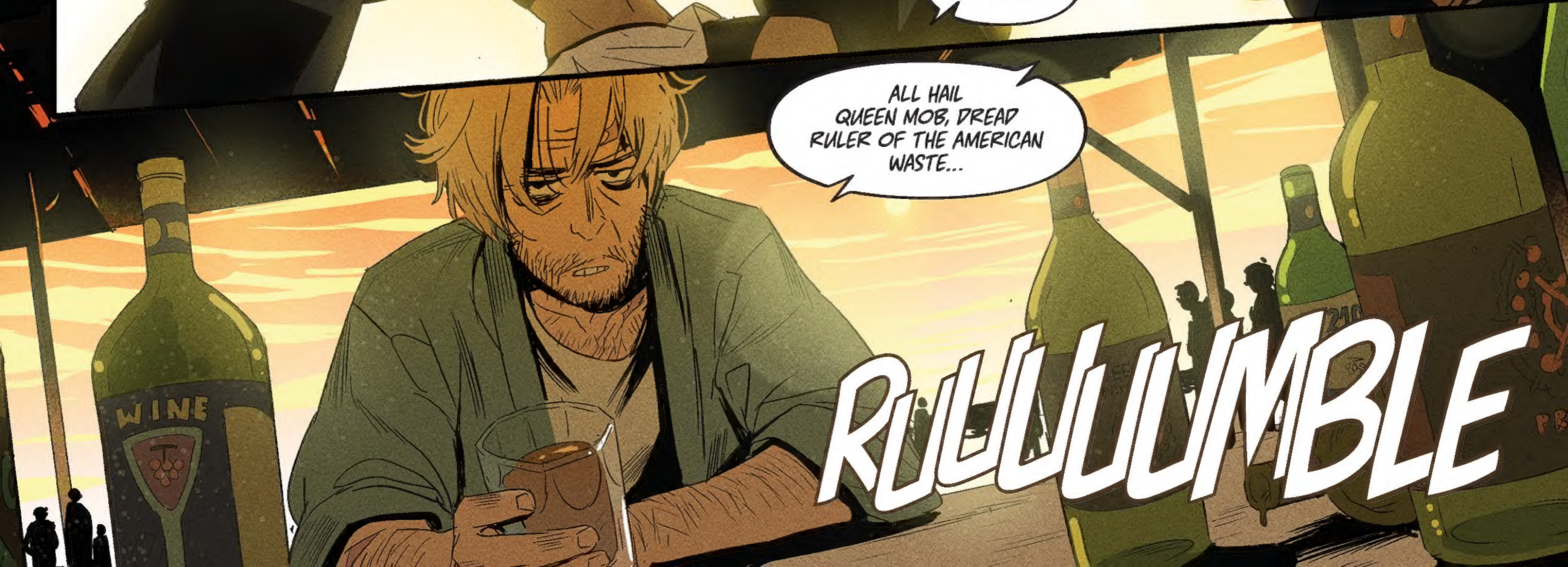


...WHILE
THE REST HAVE
BEEN RECRUITED
BY OTHER
TEAMS!



NO!
IT WASN'T
SUPPOSED TO
HAPPEN THIS
WAY!

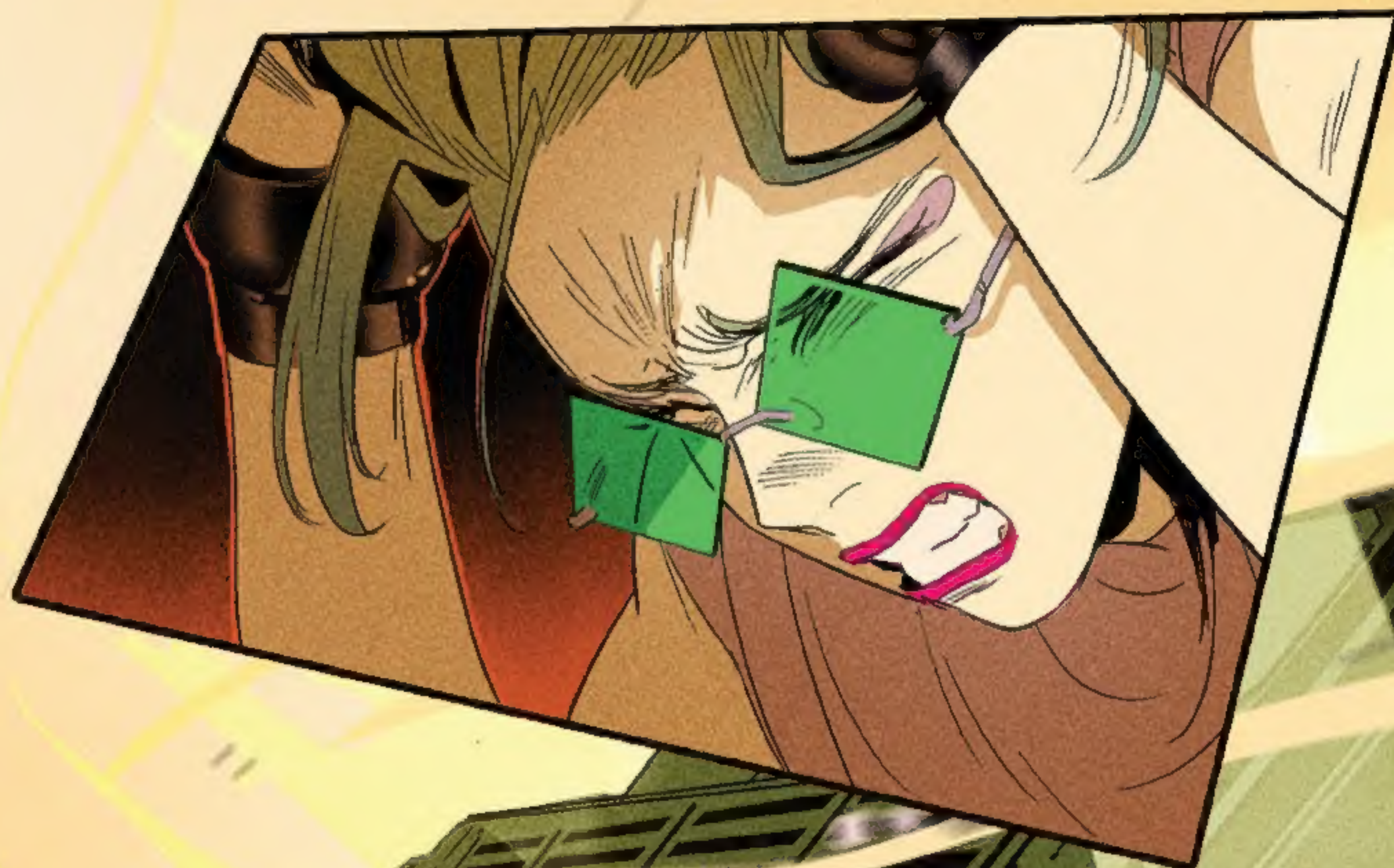
WHAT A
TWIST!



ALL HAIL
QUEEN MOB, DREAD
RULER OF THE AMERICAN
WASTE...

RULLUUMBLE

...AND GIVE
IT UP FOR OUR
CHAMPIONS!



ROOOOAAAAR



MOM. DAD.
I DID IT.

I JOINED
SKULL-CRUSHER...

...AND HER TEAM.

GOALIE DECKARD

Winner of "Most Goalie
Kills Of the Year," five
years running.

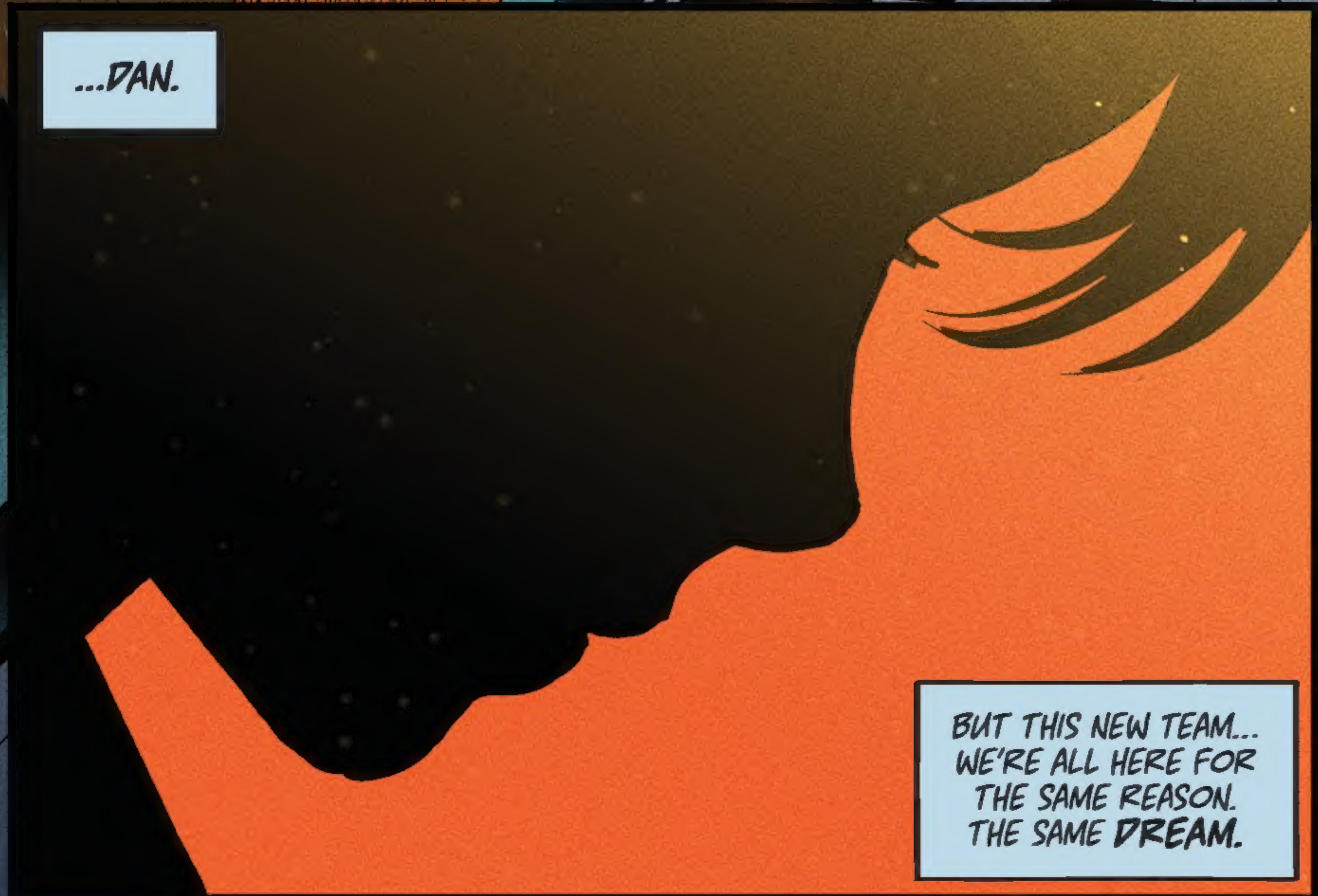
SECOND STRIKER HUXLEY

An EXPERIMENT GONE WRONG gave
him METAL SPIKES...and a love of
team sports!

FIRST DEFENDER TRISH

Youngest SPB player in the league!

I MISS THEM. MY FRIENDS.
THE TWINS, COACH, DAVID...



...DAN.

BUT THIS NEW TEAM...
WE'RE ALL HERE FOR
THE SAME REASON.
THE SAME DREAM.



MAYBE I CAN
MAKE NEW
FRIENDS--

WHAM

MARCUS

I AM
MARCUS
MOB, YOUR
NEW TEAM
CAPTAIN!



AND
IF ANYONE
BEFRIENDS TRINI
WASTELANDER, I
WILL MURDER
YOU!

STATUS:

Marcus Mob, new Captain for Team Crusher.

RECORD:

Was Heir to Queen Mob!

**WORST
MOVE:**

Tried to stop Mob from rewarding
Trini's team, and got **BOOTED OUT!***

ATK/ 1200

DEF/ 1000

STAMINA/ 1700

* see issue #5!

YES, I MADE THE
MISTAKE OF **OPENLY**
DISAGREEING WITH MY
MOTHER.

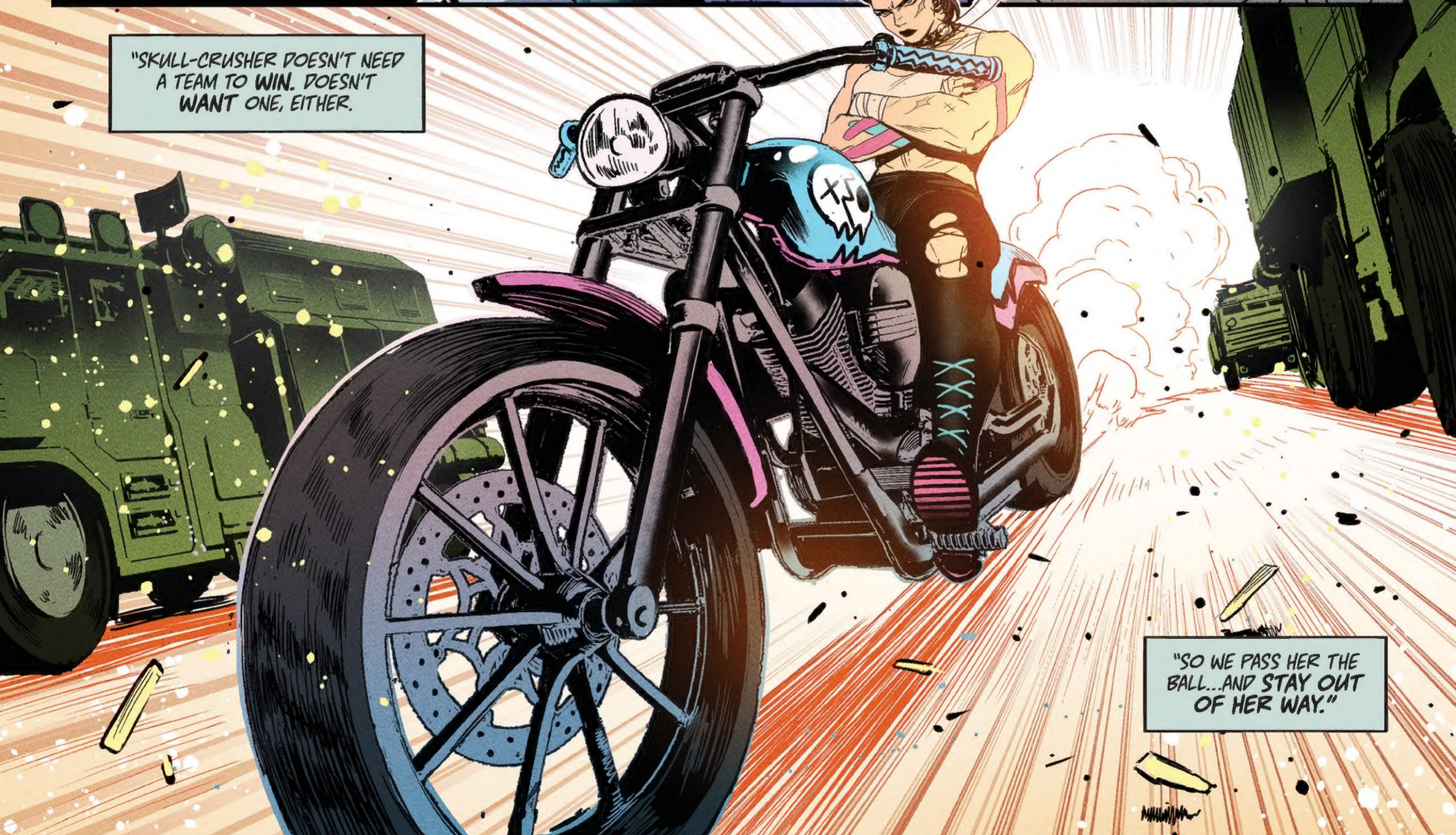
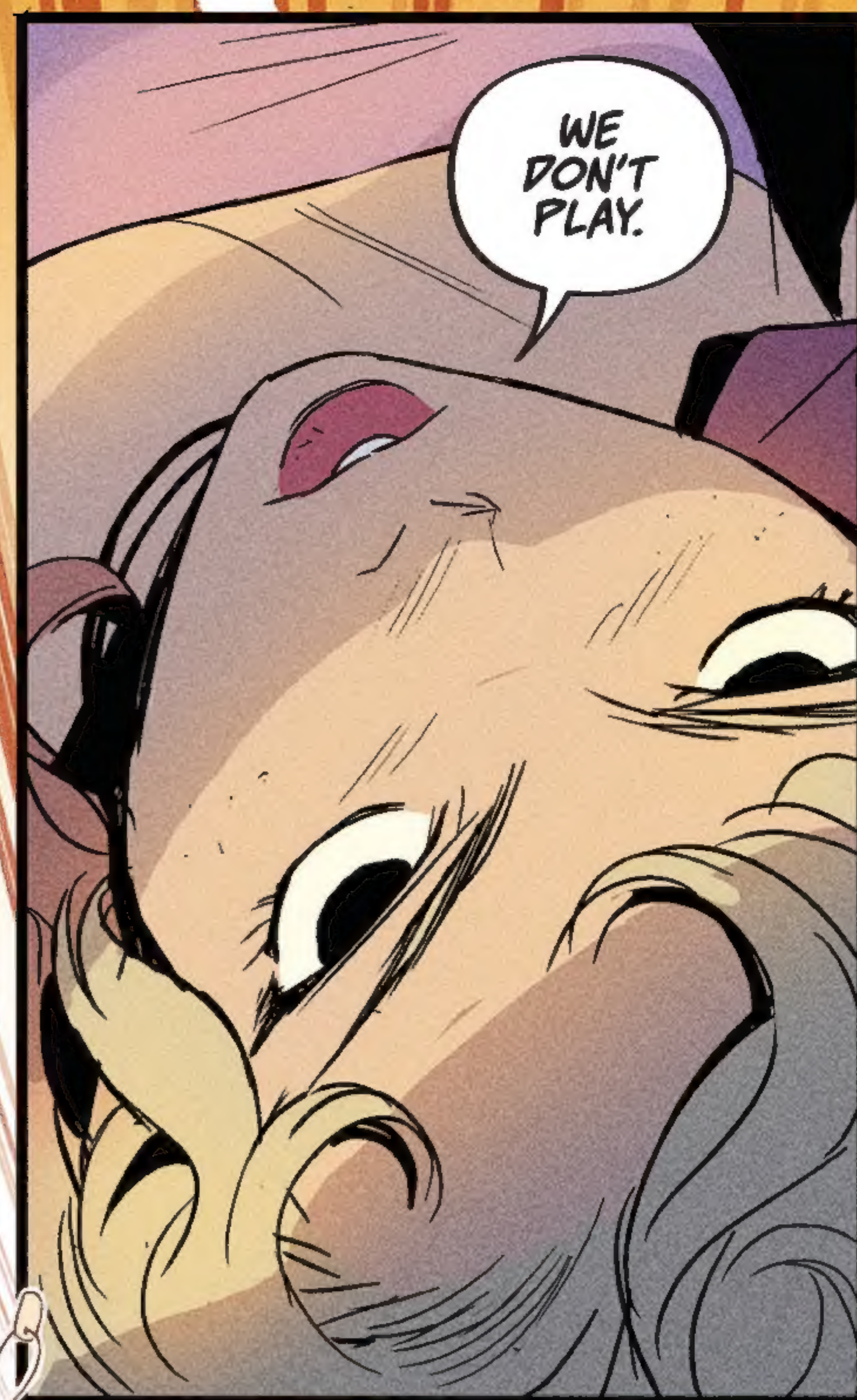
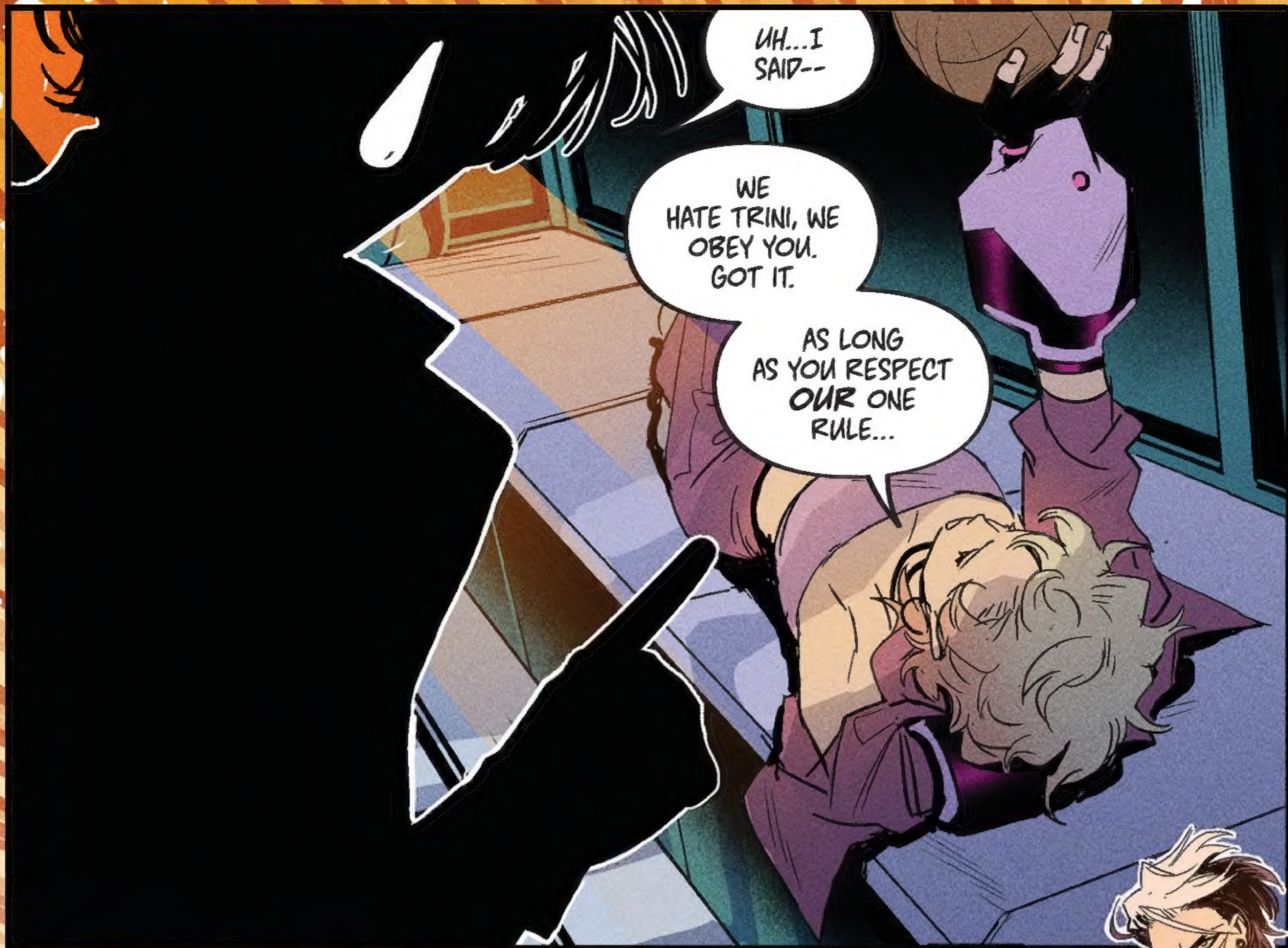
BUT I
SHALL **PROVE**
MYSELF, AND
RECLAIM MY
SPOT!

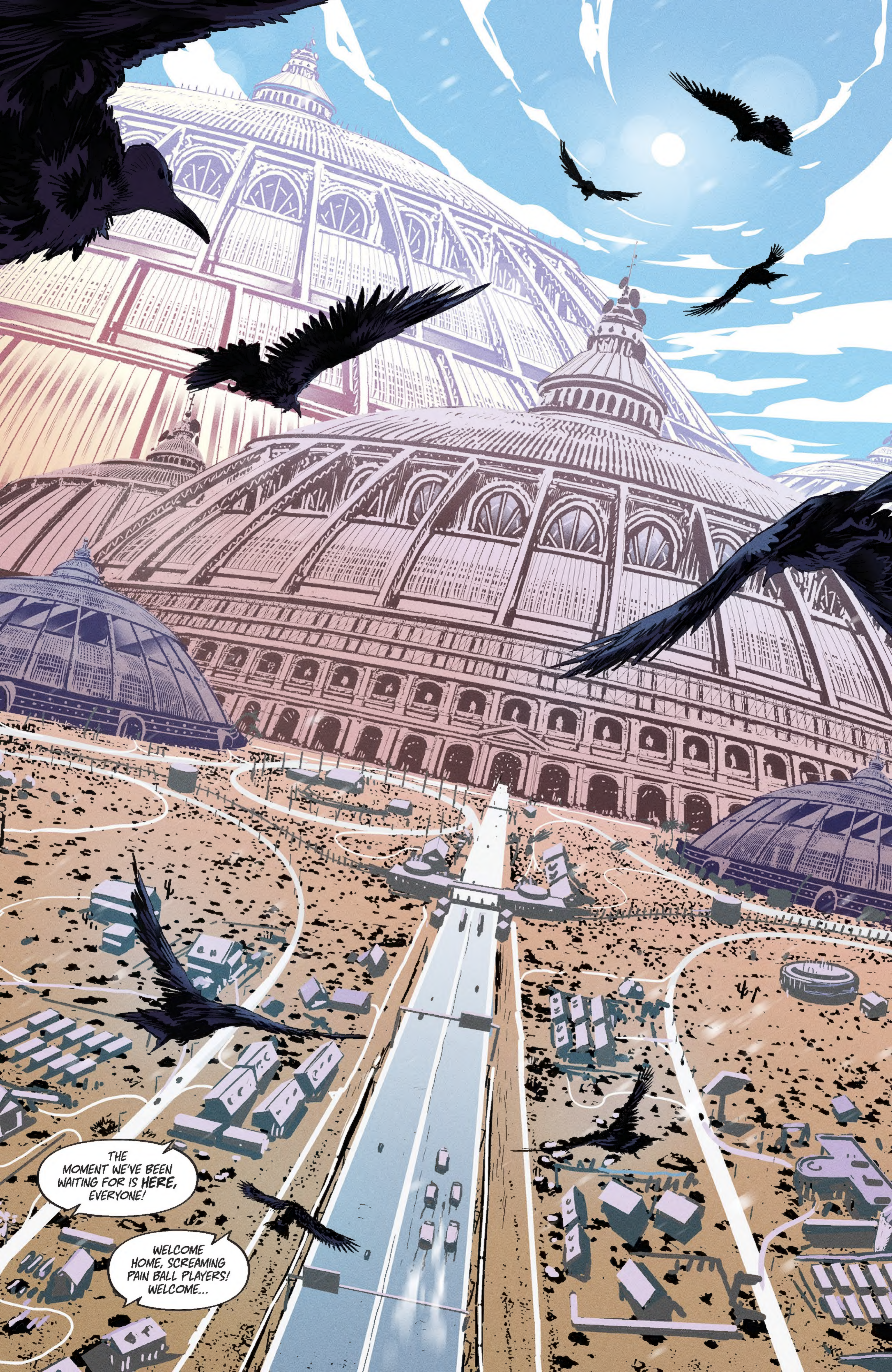
SO IF YOU
WANT THE FAVOR OF
THE NEXT **DREAD**
OVERLORD...

...SHUT
UP AND DO
AS I SAY!

KABOOM



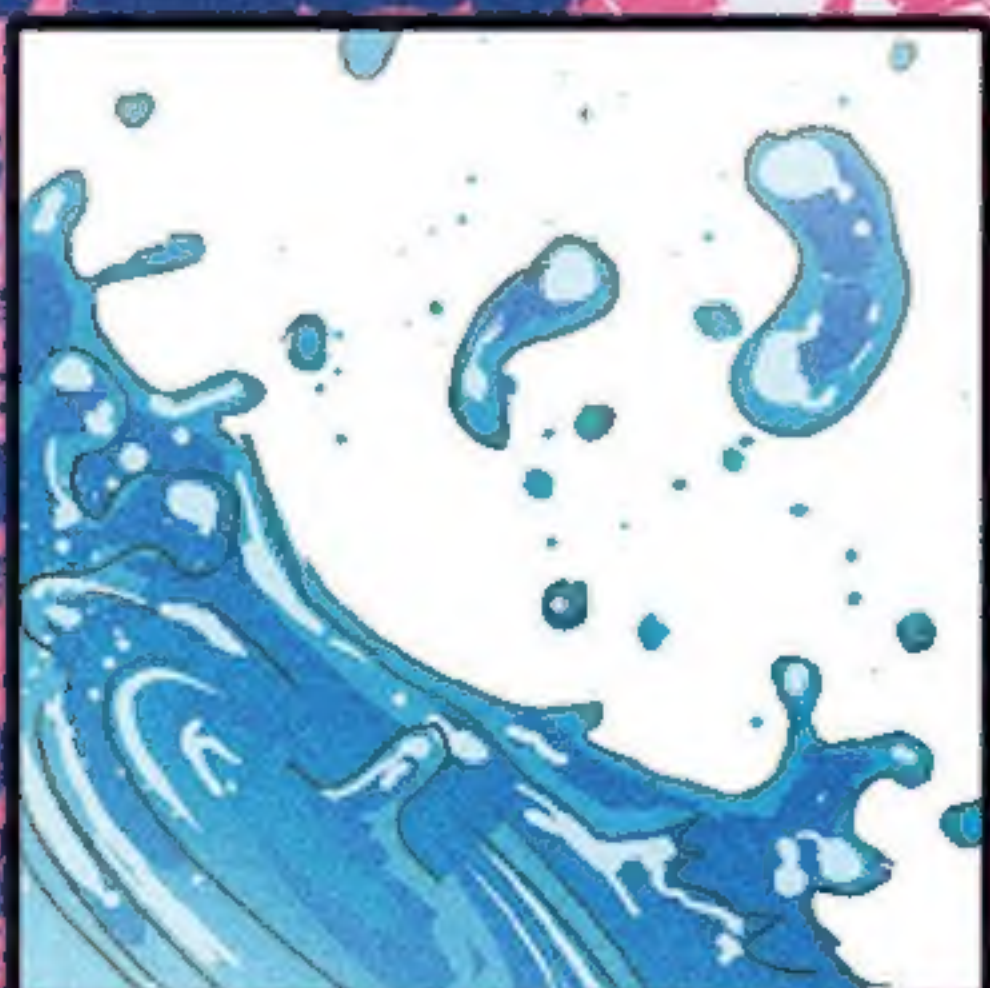




THE
MOMENT WE'VE BEEN
WAITING FOR IS HERE,
EVERYONE!

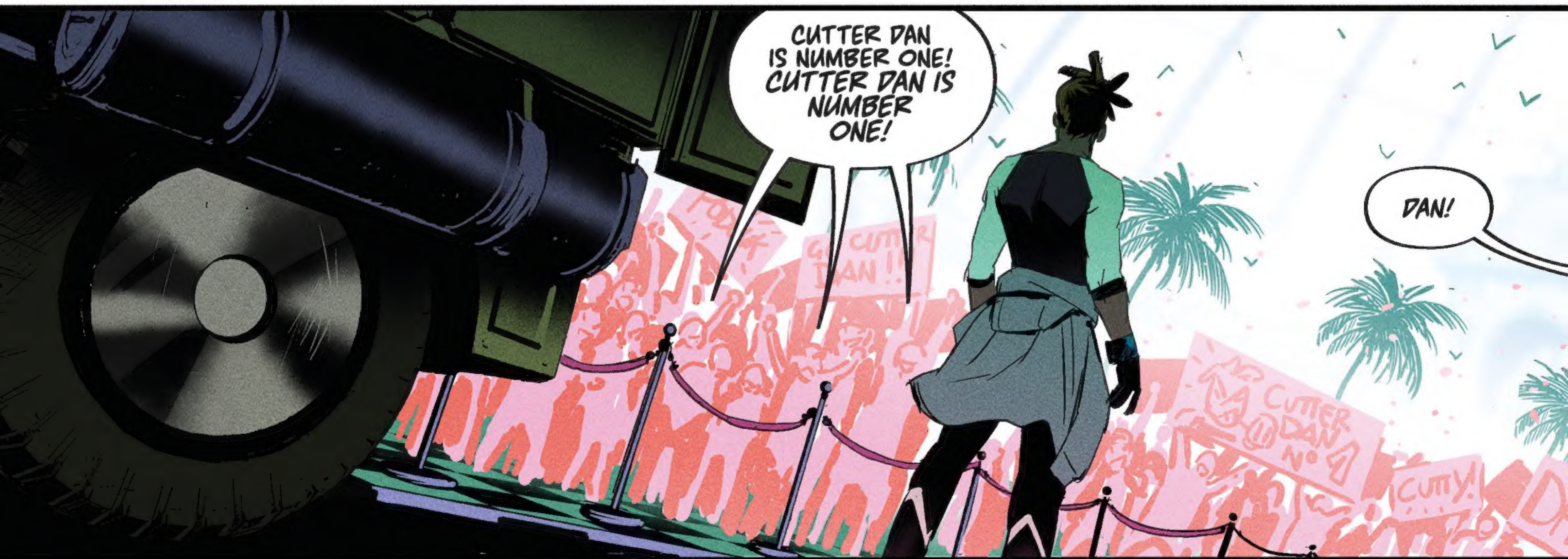
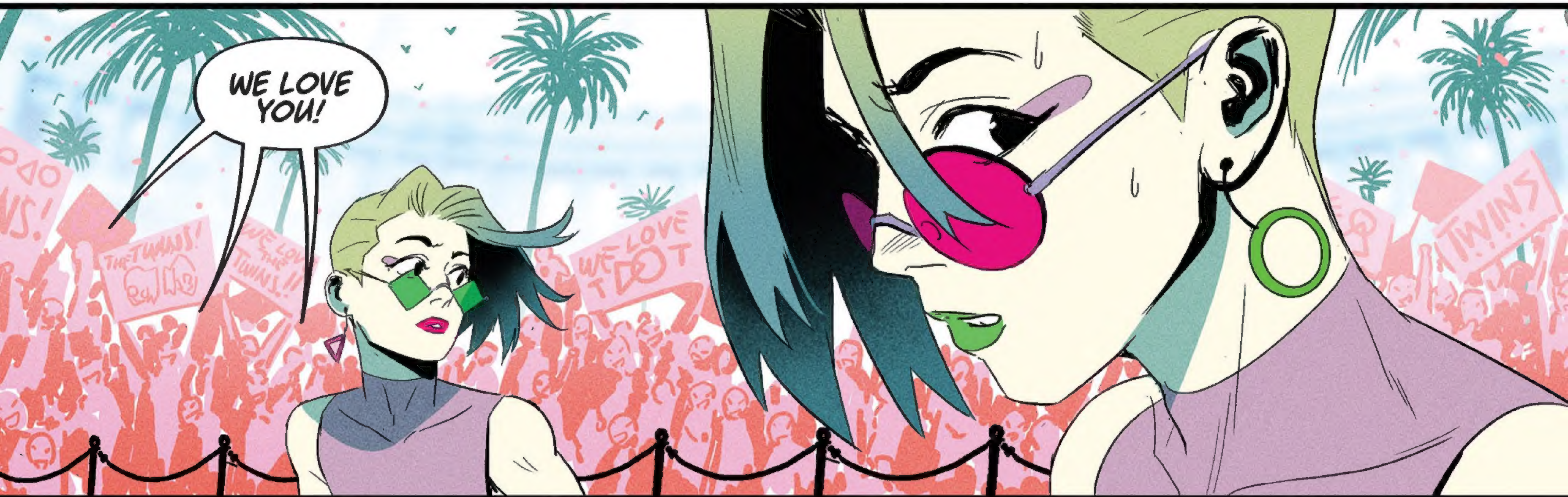
WELCOME
HOME, SCREAMING
PAIN BALL PLAYERS!
WELCOME...

...TO
THE BUBBLE
CITIES!



Whooooo!





TRINI.

I'VE SPENT
MY ENTIRE LIFE
TRYING TO GET INTO
THE **LEAGUE**. TO
BECOME A
PRO.

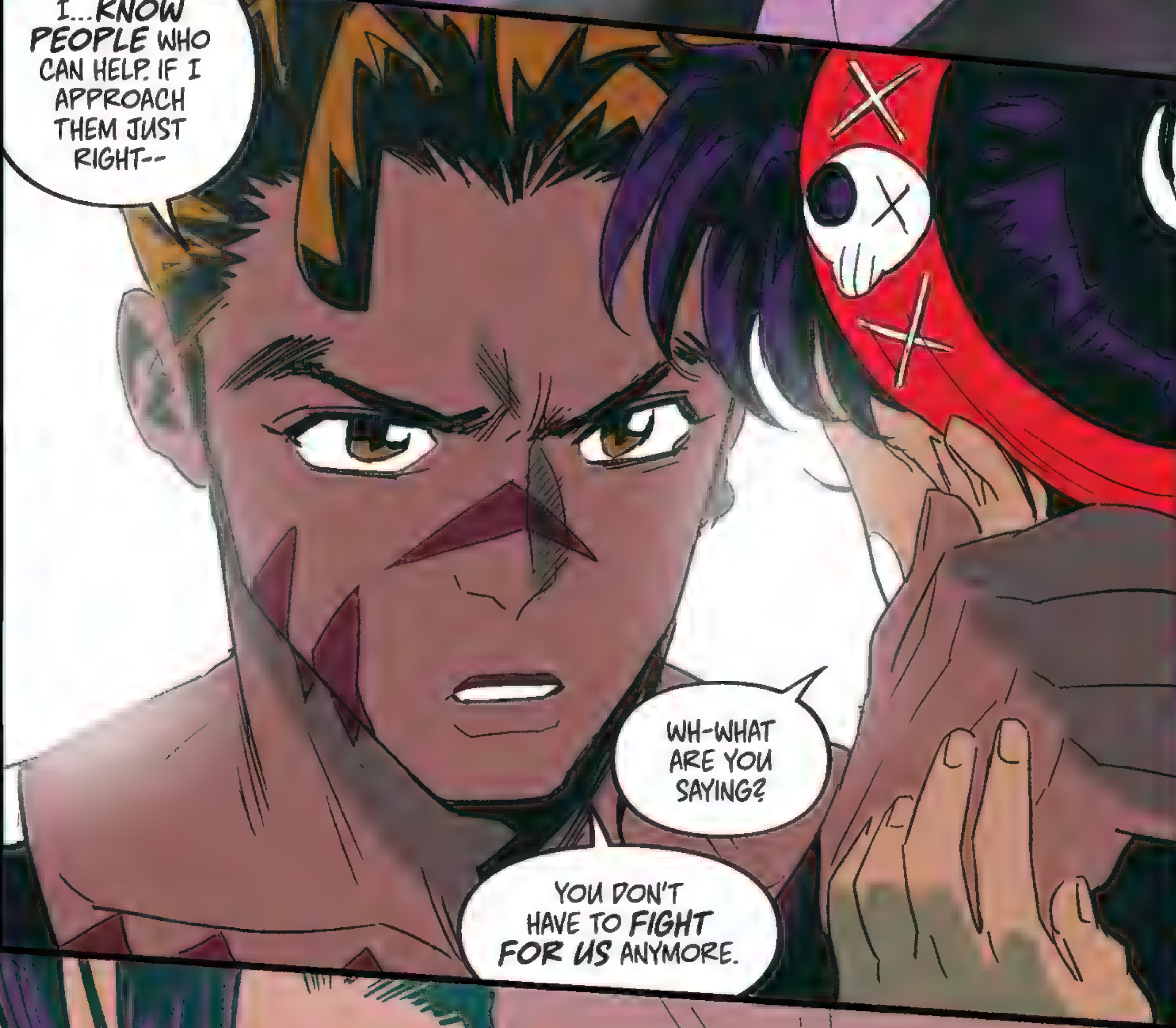
BUT YOU
GOT ME HERE. YOU
SAVED ME FROM DYING A
HAS-BEEN IN THE
WASTE.



I...KNOW
PEOPLE WHO
CAN HELP. IF I
APPROACH
THEM JUST
RIGHT--

WH-WHAT
ARE YOU
SAYING?

YOU DON'T
HAVE TO **FIGHT**
FOR US ANYMORE.



THIS TIME,
TRINI...

...LET
ME SAVE
YOU.



ARE WE
HAVING FUN
YET?





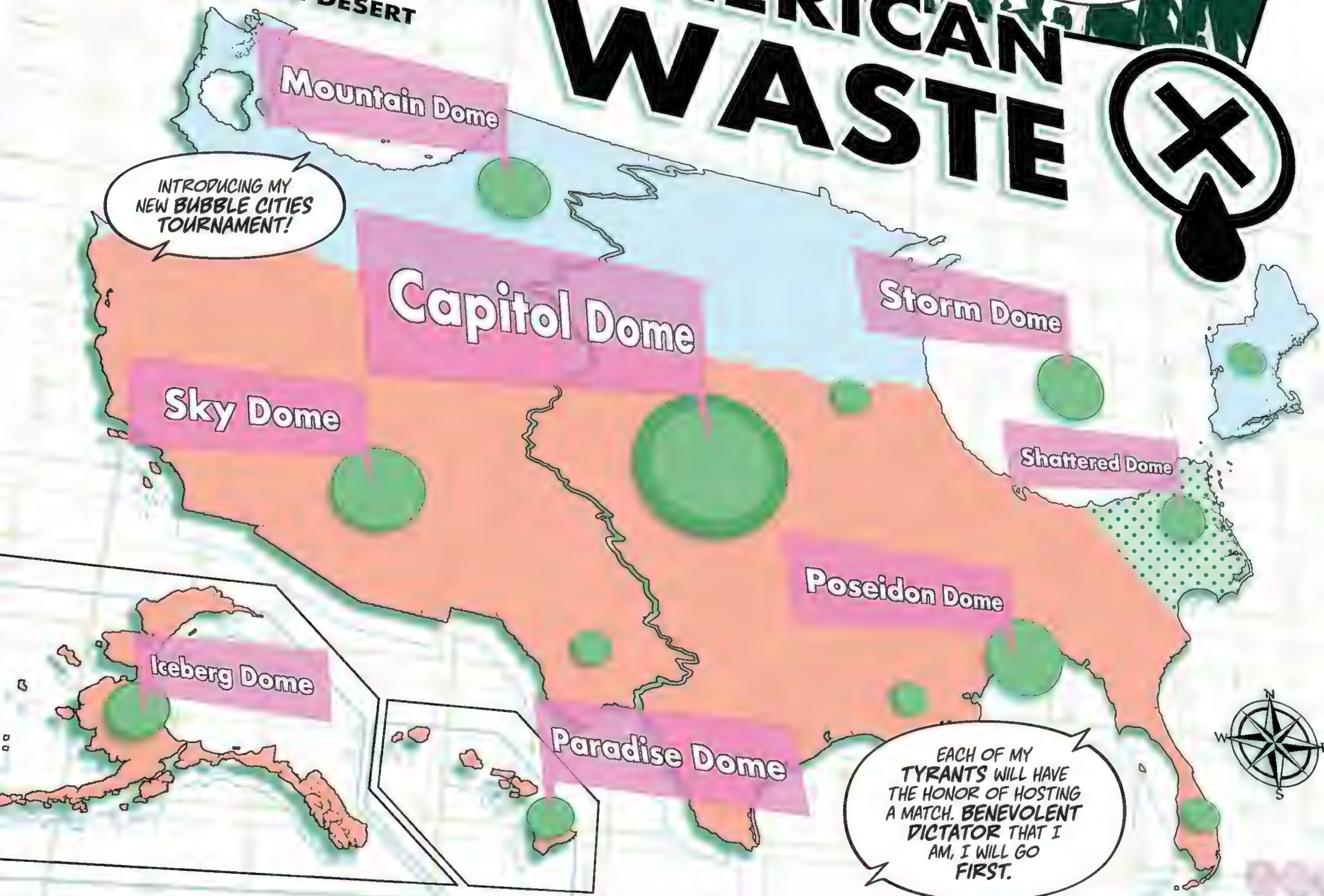
MY DEVOTED CITIZENS. YOU WATCHED THE MATCHES. YOU FOLLOWED THE TOURNAMENT.

I HAVE SEEN YOUR DELIGHT. SO WHY STOP NOW?

AMERICAN WASTE



- RADIOACTIVE
- HELLSCAPE DESERT
- ICE

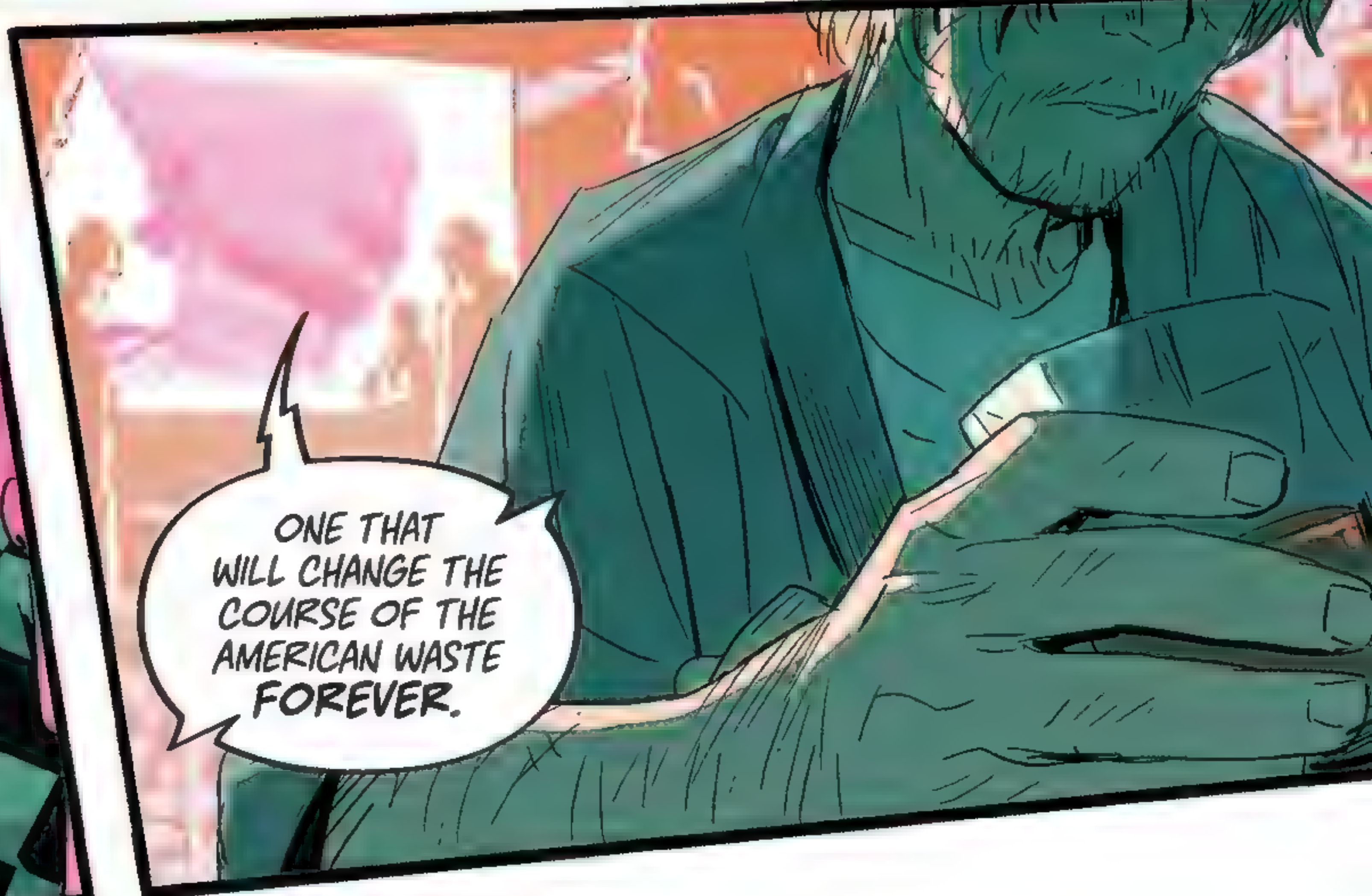


INTRODUCING MY NEW BUBBLE CITIES TOURNAMENT!

EACH OF MY TYRANTS WILL HAVE THE HONOR OF HOSTING A MATCH. BENEVOLENT DICTATOR THAT I AM, I WILL GO FIRST.



BUT THERE'S A CATCH.



ONE THAT WILL CHANGE THE COURSE OF THE AMERICAN WASTE FOREVER.



CA-CLUNK

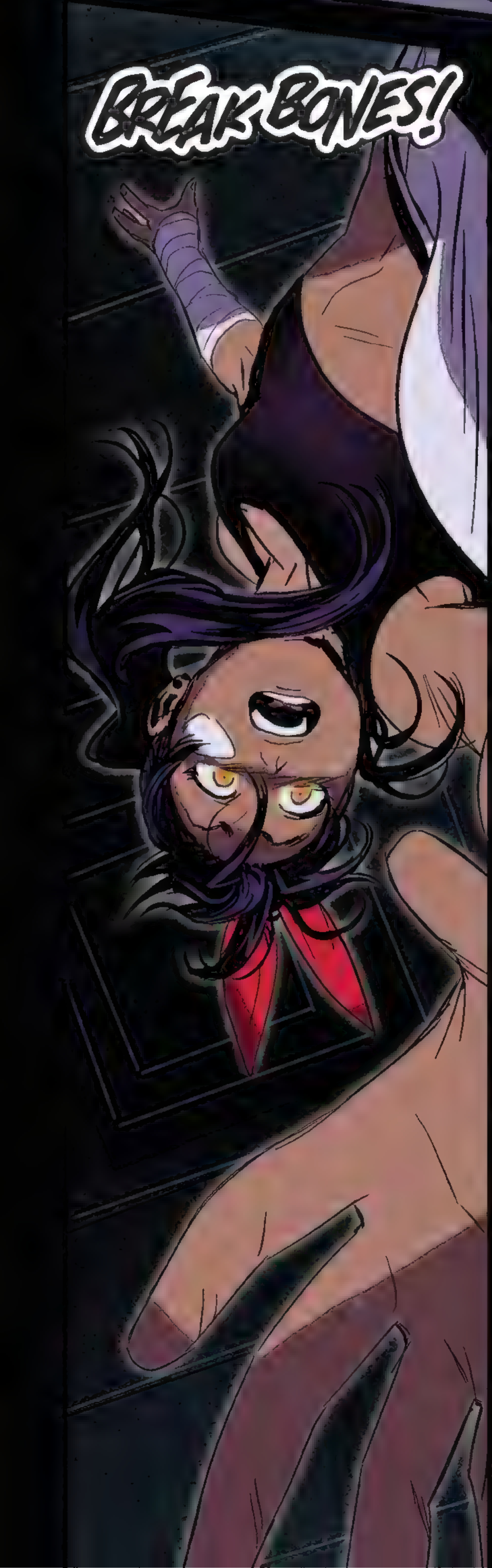
I'll be announcing what that catch is at the end of the first match...

...tomorrow, here in Capitol Dome!

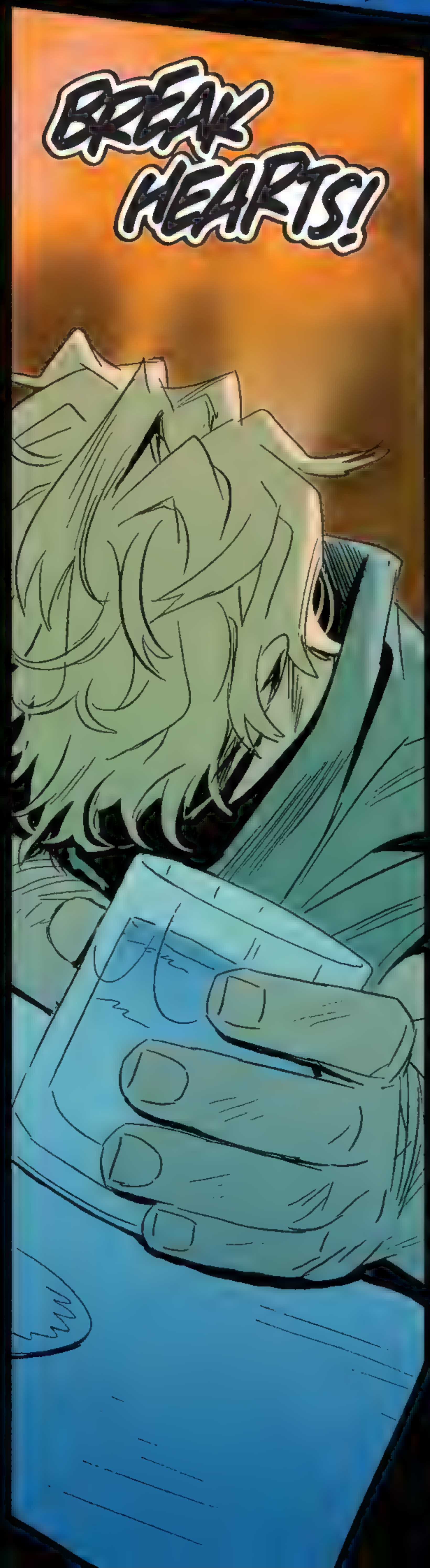


WHOOOSH

YOU HEARD OUR LEGAL OPPRESSOR, FOLKS! WHAT DO WE SAY?



BREAK BONES!



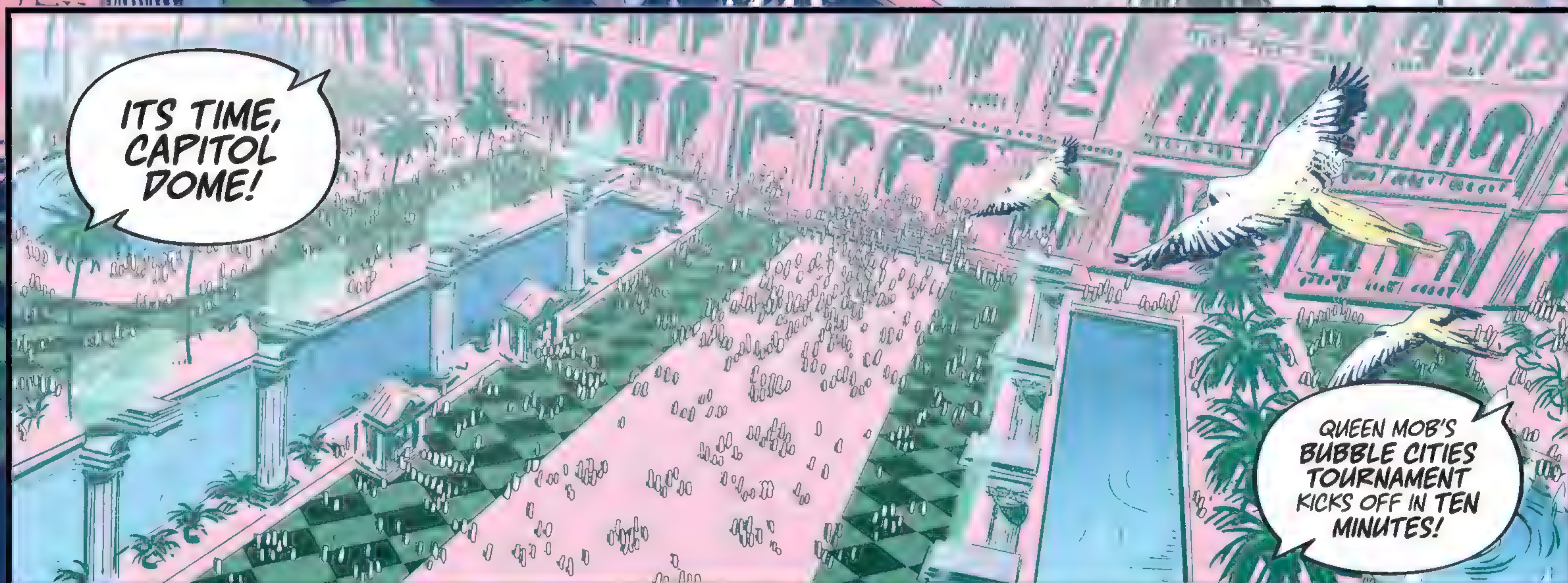
BREAK HEARTS!



ANNNND...?

DON'T DIE!

THE NEXT MORNING.

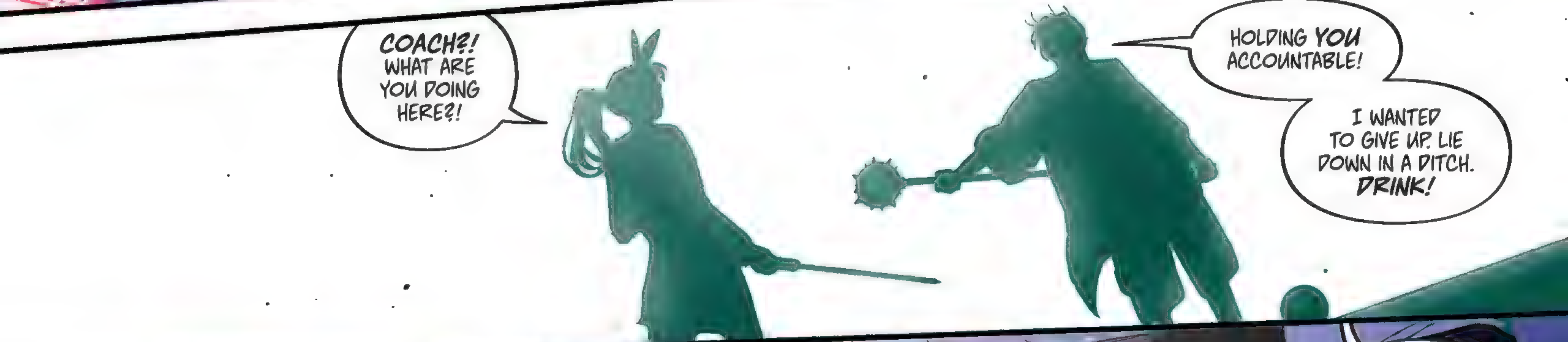








...EX-RETIREE
BLOOD-BONE!



COACH?!
WHAT ARE
YOU DOING
HERE?!

HOLDING YOU
ACCOUNTABLE!

I WANTED
TO GIVE UP. LIE
DOWN IN A DITCH.
DRINK!



SO I BRIBED
MY WAY ONTO THIS
TEAM TO YELL
AT YOU!

BUT WHEN
I TRIED TO STOP
GIVING A DAMN...
I THOUGHT OF
YOU.

FILLING
ME WITH YOUR
RELENTLESS
HOPE.

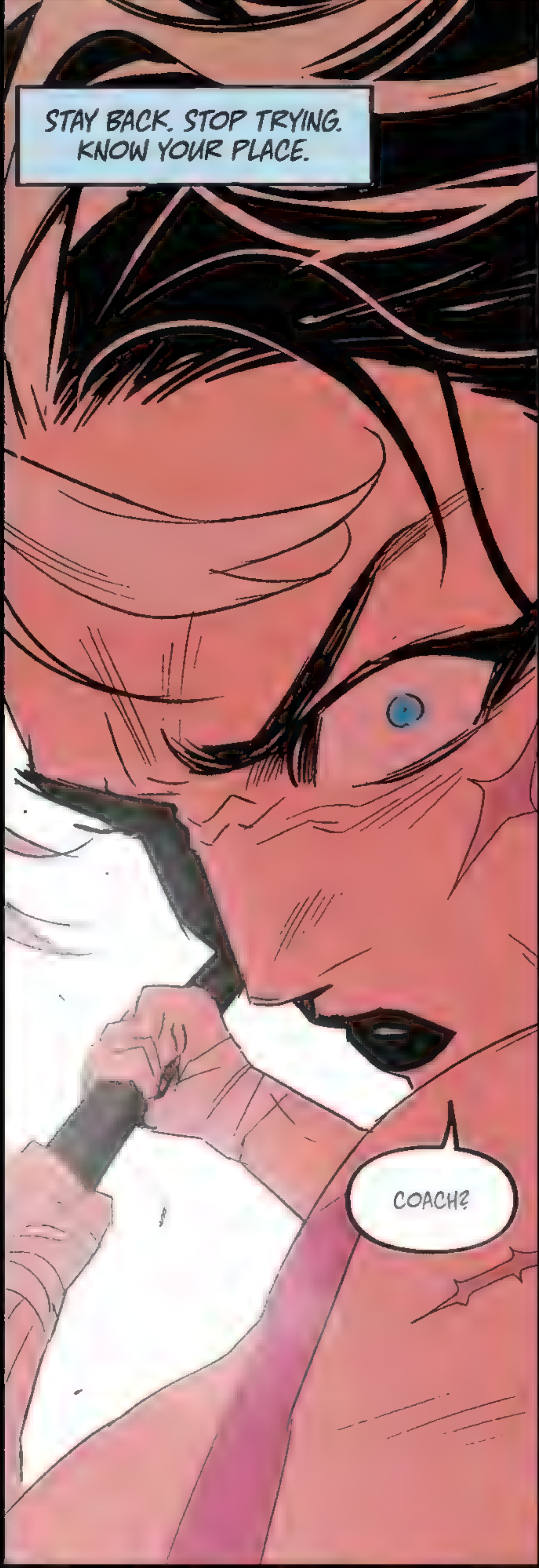
YOU
GOT YOUR
DREAM, AND IT
SUCKS. BUT IF I
CAN'T GIVE UP,
YOU CAN'T
EITHER!

YOUR
TEAM NEEDS
YOU! SO STOP
MOPING...AND
PLAY!



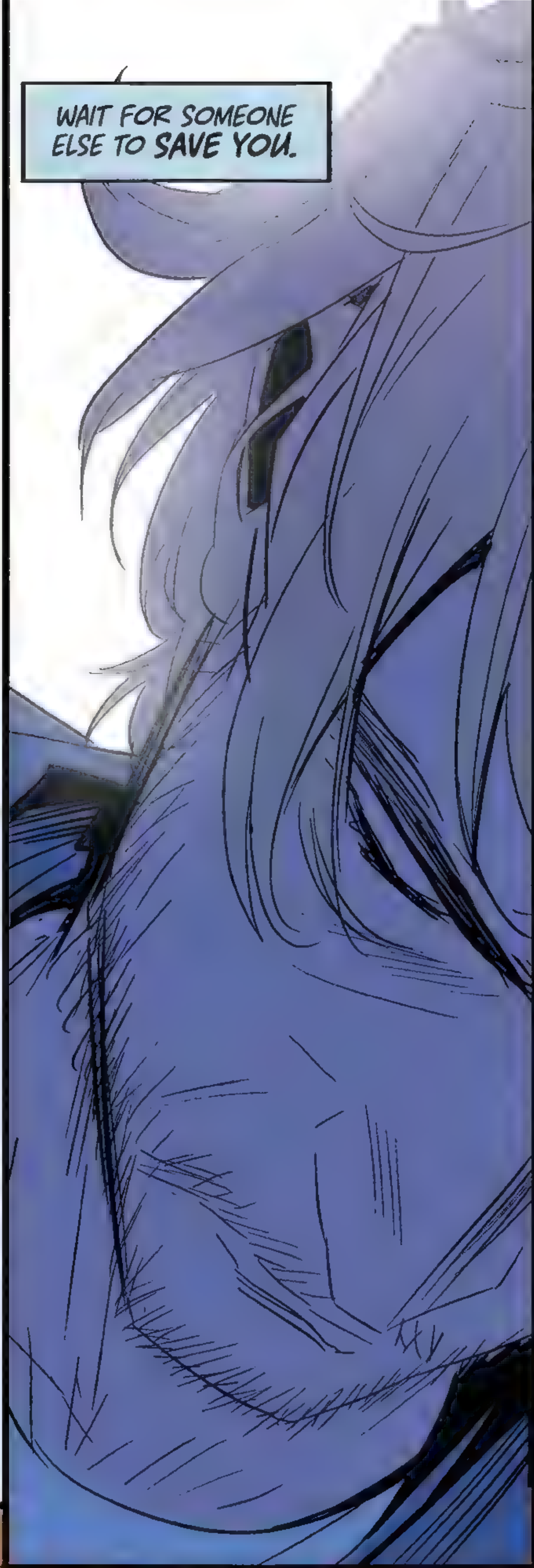
THE MATCH
HAS BEGUN!

THIS IS THE WAY THINGS ARE
IN THE BUBBLE CITIES.



STAY BACK. STOP TRYING.
KNOW YOUR PLACE.

COACH?



WAIT FOR SOMEONE
ELSE TO SAVE YOU.



WAIT...WAIT...



I CAN'T!

WHOA!
SKULL-CRUSHER WAS JUST
DENIED A MURDER
POINT...



...BY HER OWN TEAMMATE!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

I'M NOT WAITING ANY LONGER!

WHAT THE HELL DOES THAT MEAN?!

CRACK

I'M DOING SOMETHING! I REFUSE TO KILL MY OLD TEAM!

HELL YEAH!

I REFUSE TO KILL ANYONE!

...HELL WHAT?!

I DON'T CARE IF THAT'S HOW THINGS ARE DONE! I DON'T CARE THAT IT'D BE EASIER FOR EVERYONE!

THAT'S NOT HOW I'M GOING TO PLAY!

WHIIIR--



THUNK
THUNK
THUNK

WE'RE GOING
TO MURDER YOU,
WASTELANDER!

YOU'RE
MAKING US
LOOK BAD ON
CAMERA!

OUR NET
VALUE IS
SINKING!

TOO
BAD!

EVERYONE
IS SO FOCUSED
ON MURDER!
BUT YOU GET THE
MOST POINTS FOR
SURVIVING
THE GOALIE
SQUARE...

I DON'T
NEED ANY
OF YOU!
LEAVE!



...AND
GUESS WHERE
WE ARE RIGHT
NOW?!

INCREDIBLE!
THE CRUSHERS HAVE
TOTALLY ABANDONED
THEIR SIDE... AND ARE ALL
ALIVE IN THE GOALIE
SQUARE!

THAT'S
TWENTY-FIVE
POINTS...

...IF THEY CAN SURVIVE LONG ENOUGH TO SCORE!

BWAAAAARM

167 KILLS. A FLAWLESS WINNING STREAK.

I REFUSE TO LOSE TODAY...
...SO I WON'T!

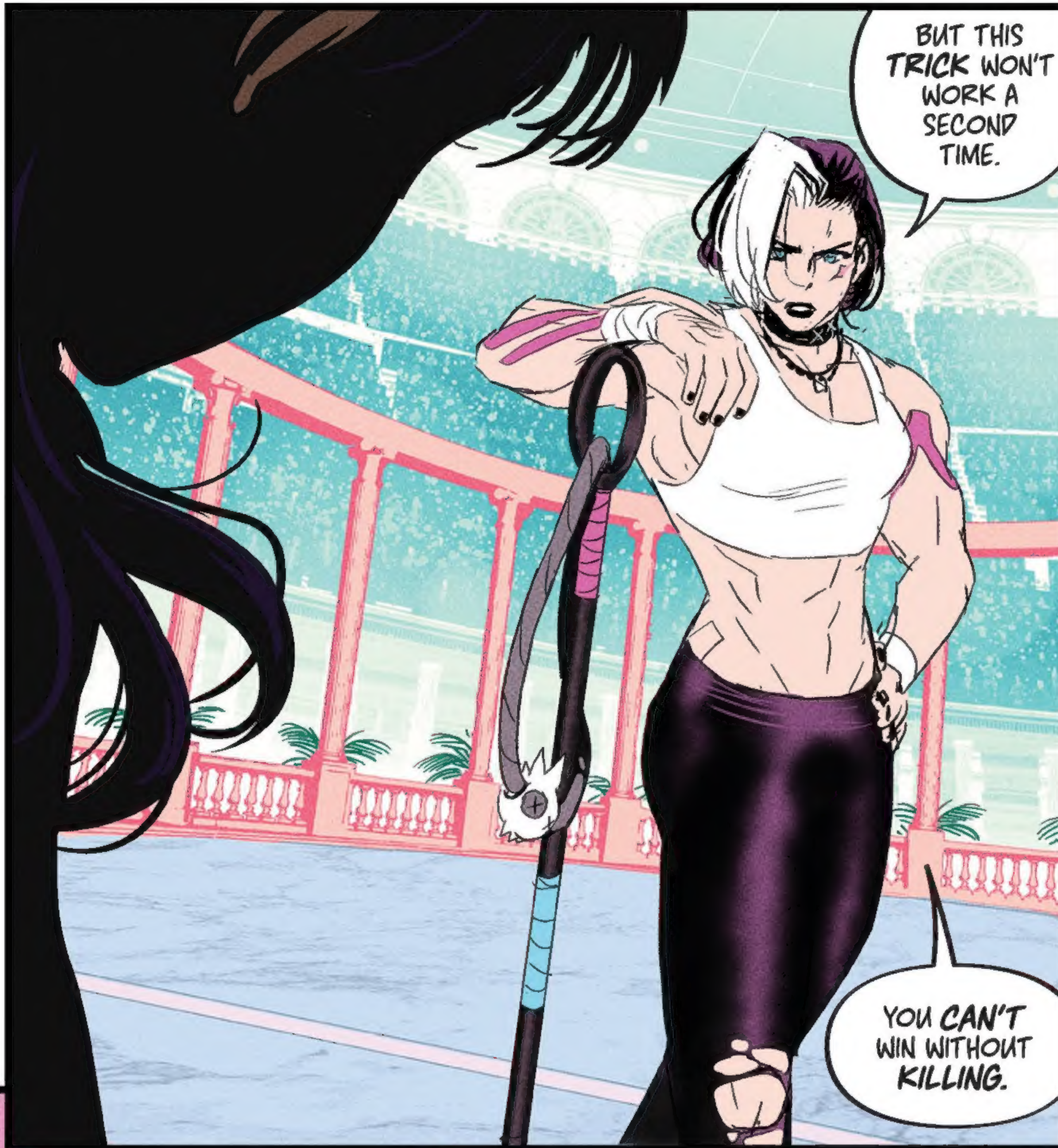
TWENTY-EIGHT POINTS! THERE'S NO WAY THE MEGASONIC STRIKERS CAN CATCH UP!

THIS MATCH IS OVER!



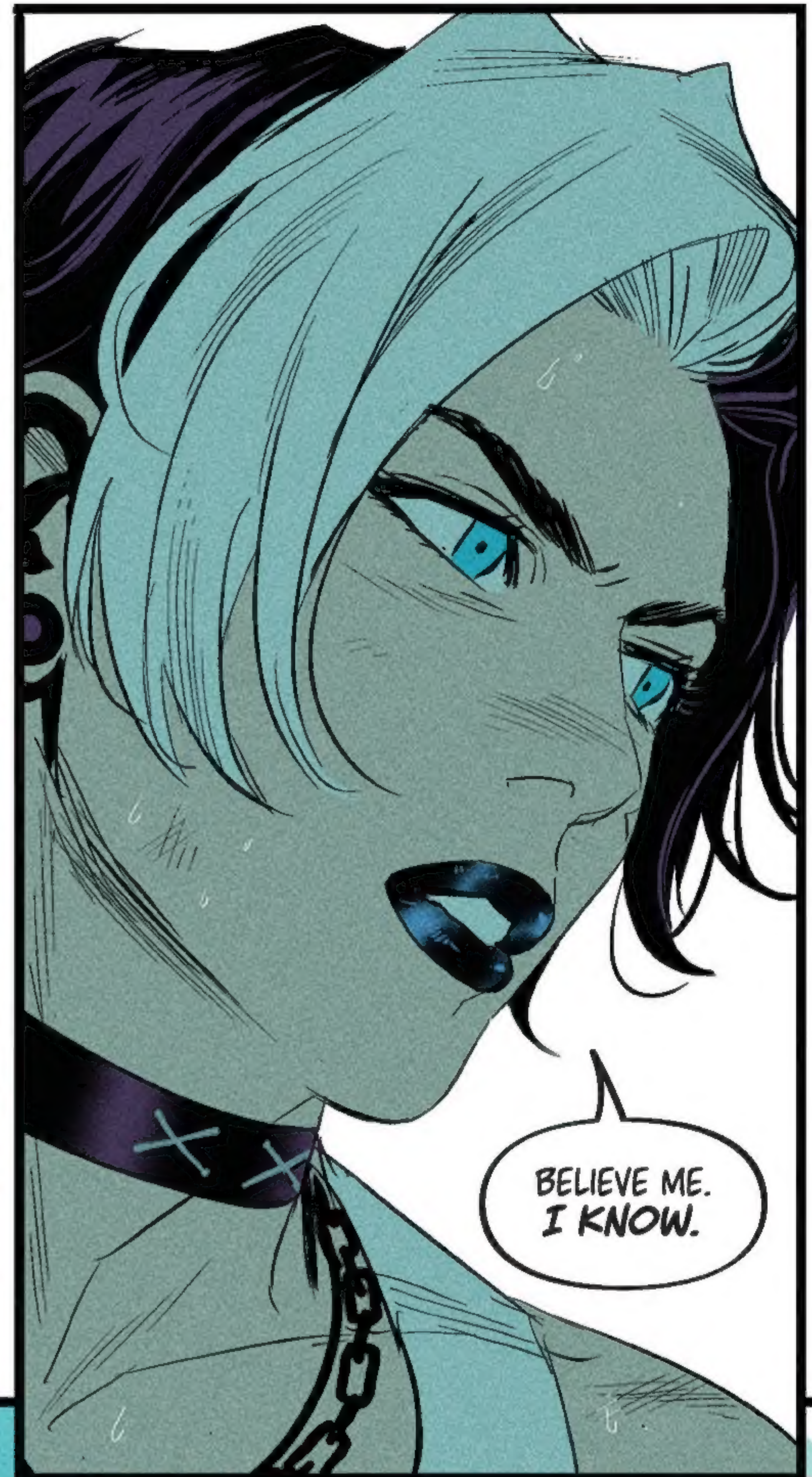
Whoa whoa!

YOU GOT LUCKY. SURPRISED THE OTHER TEAM.



BUT THIS TRICK WON'T WORK A SECOND TIME.

YOU CAN'T WIN WITHOUT KILLING.

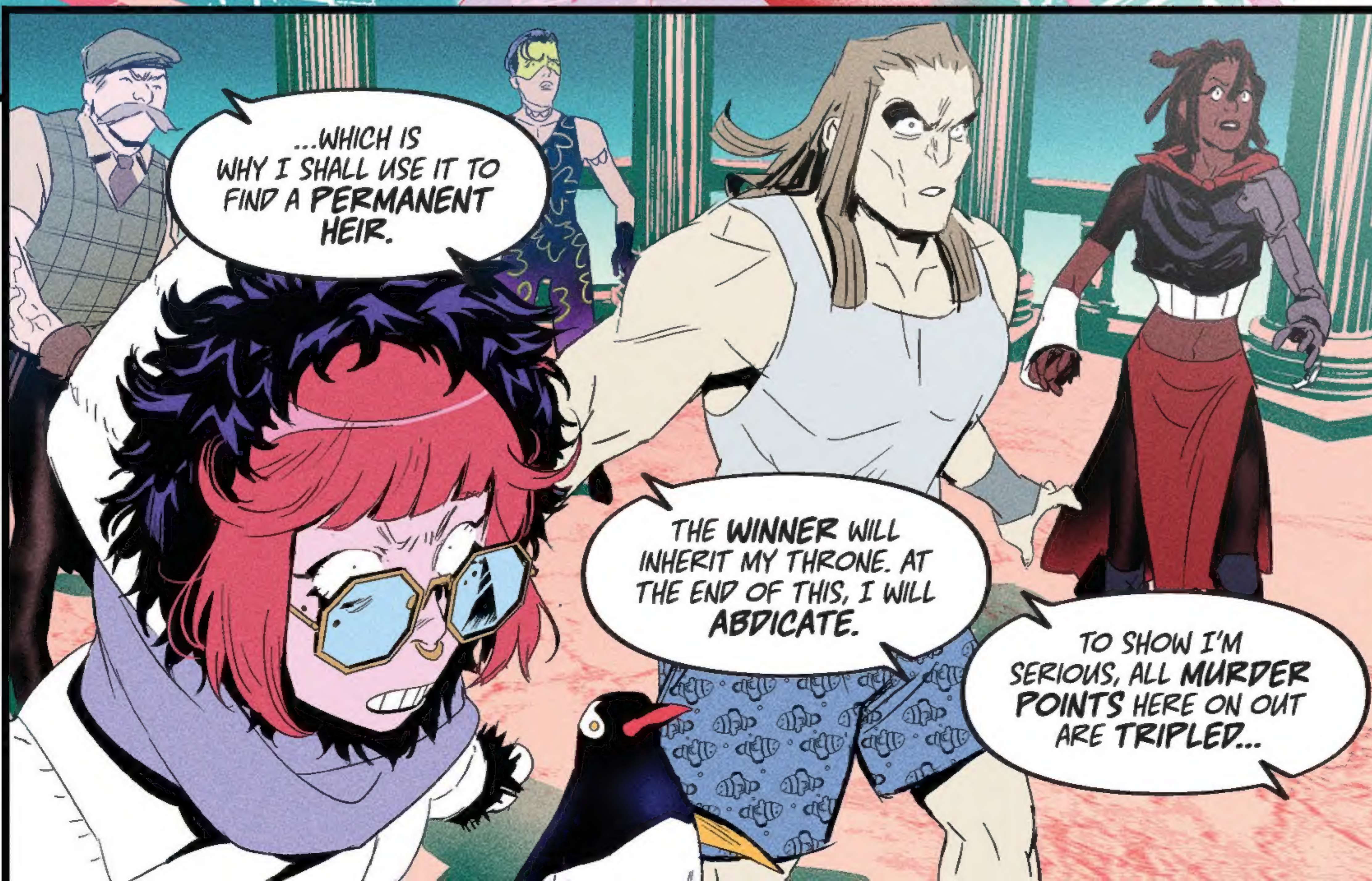


BELIEVE ME. I KNOW.



HAHAHAHAHAH! DID I NOT PROMISE YOU AMUSEMENTS?

MY BUBBLE CITIES TOURNAMENT WILL BE THE GREATEST...




...WHICH IS WHY I SHALL USE IT TO FIND A PERMANENT HEIR.

THE WINNER WILL INHERIT MY THRONE. AT THE END OF THIS, I WILL ABDICATE.

TO SHOW I'M SERIOUS, ALL MURDER POINTS HERE ON OUT ARE TRIPLED...



...FOR EVERYONE EXCEPT TEAM CRUSHER.

A comic book panel with a large, close-up image of a green-skinned woman with long black hair and a red headband with white crosses. She has a determined expression. In the background, a woman with short white hair and a black choker looks on. Further back, a man in a brown coat and a woman in a purple dress are visible. A large, pink, stylized head with a wide grin and a cross on its forehead looms in the background. Three speech bubbles contain text.

I'LL BE
HOLDING THEM TO THE
PROMISE TRINI WASTELANDER
MADE...TO WIN WITHOUT
KILLING ANYONE.

IF THEY
CAN.

REJOICE, MY
CITIZENS...AND LET
THE GAMES
BEGIN!

Trini has declared she'll win the Tournament without murder points...but will others give her the same grace with the DREAD DICTATOR'S THRONE on the line? Find out in the next issue of I HEART SKULL-CRUSHER!

I HEART SKULL-CRUSHER! #7
ON SALE NOVEMBER 2024



Yamada